

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
_____, TEXAS**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
OPEN CHANNEL**

Sponsor/Land user: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Legal description of practice location: SEC _____ T _____ R _____

A properly operated and maintained open channel is an asset to your farm. This channel was designed and installed to convey water to a location where it can be useful or safely discharged. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of the structure can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Maintain the depth, width, side slopes and gradient of the channel.
- Immediately remove any obstructions or blockage of spillways, trash racks, inlets or outlets.
- Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetative coverings. This includes reseeding, fertilization, and controlled application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control height.
- Remove unplanned woody vegetation from channel
- Remove all foreign debris that hinders system operation,
- Install and maintain fences to control livestock access when adjacent fields are used for pasture.
- Replace weathered or displaced rock riprap to constructed grade.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.

[illegible]

USDA-NRCS-TX